FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ANDEAN PACT COMMISSION MEETS IN BOLIVIA

PY202315 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0820 GMT 20 Feb 79 PY

[Text] The commission of the Cartagena pact which met last night in Cochabamba behind closed doors concluded that the Andean Pact continues to be the most appropriate system for the development of the subregion, although it also recognized that many of the goals set when the system was established still have not been fulfilled. The general conclusions will be submitted for the consideration of two other commissions, one to meet in Quito and another for which the date and place are still to be set. The members of the Evaluating Commission, with representatives from Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, have been meeting in Cochabamba since last Friday.

The Venezuelan representative, Reinaldo Figuereido, said that "the Andean Pact is suffering the same ups and downs as the world's economy, as well as the specific problems of each of its members." "The first Andean group included Chile and not Venezuela, and it now includes Venezuela and not Chile." With respect to the withdrawal of that country, he said that "the withdrawal of Chile may imply a blow to the broader integration of Latin America, and that country should have seen what would be most beneficial for it."

CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMY MINISTERS MEET IN GUATEMALA

PA200237 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0035 GMT 20 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The five economy ministers of Central America decided here today to accept Costa Rica's request for a reduction of taxes that affect the import of specific electrical appliances in the area. The decision was adopted during a brief meeting that the ministers held this afternoon at the headquarters of the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) in Guatemala City. The agreement will be implemented by the Central American economy vice ministers during a meeting to be held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on 8 and 9 March.

It was decided at today's meeting that the tax reduction will be undertaken in a multilateral manner by the countries of the region.

The ministers arrived in Guatemala around noon, met for 4 hours and quickly returned to their countries. During their brief meeting, the ministers analyzed the unfavorable effects of the fall in international coffee prices. In view of the situation, they declared themselves in permanent consultation.

The ministers heard a report from the leaders of the National Coffee Association (ANACAFE) of Guatemala regarding the dramatic situation of the price of coffee, which has dropped to $128 a quintal. In 1977, the price reached $241 a quintal.

The ministers also agreed to attend the meeting of the special commission of consultation and negotiation on sugar in Washington on 26 February as a bloc in order to obtain better treatment for Central American sugar on the U.S. market.

The meeting was attended by the economy ministers of Guatemala, Valentin Solorzano; El Salvador, Roberto Ortiz Avalos; Honduras, Carlos Manuel Zeron; Nicaragua, Roger Blandon; and Costa Rica, Fernando Altmann.

MARTINEZ DE HOZ HINTS NEW PRICE MEASURES

PY211451 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 21 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 21 Feb (NA)--Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz has stated that the private sector "does not need to wait for the government to decide when to increase" salaries and added that some measures seeking the "leveling of prices" might be revealed within the next few days.

In successive remarks made last night to two metropolitan television stations, Martinez de Hoz had also predicted that inflation this month "will be lower" than in January.

As he said yesterday morning at the metropolitan airport--his remarks here were identical to those made to the two television stations that interviewed him separately--Martinez de Hoz stressed that the guidelines announced in his 20 December speech "will be fully maintained." All economic sectors must adapt to those guidelines," he warned. "Those who do not adapt to those guidelines, not only will damage general economic development, but will directly damage themselves," he added.

He repeated: "We want to emphasize this very clearly, because those who do not adjust their actions to the official guidelines will have no right to complain about the consequences of their own actions."

Regarding the possibility of changing the salary policy, he repeated that "the real salary is not established by decree because it depends on production, productivity and the market, and private companies have a certain freedom to do so, within the so-called flexibility margins, and they can even go beyond these margins, but within the limits imposed by taxation."

He added that "the government has the obligation of safeguarding the best minimum salary level, whether through the vital minimum salary or through the basic salary, called the salary of agreement," and recalled that his ministry is ready to accept "a cumulative 4-percent increase" of that basic level.

He explained that readjustments are made automatically and that their implementation "does not exclude periodic decisions that the government might make, like the one made last year about other kinds of readjustments."

In answer to a question, he said that his 20 December plan includes measures "seeking" greater control of inflation and improvement in the real salaries.

CNT LEADERS WARN VIDELA THEY HAVE 'REACHED LIMIT'

PY161851 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1140 GMT 16 Dec 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Feb (NA)--The National Labor Commission (CNT) has asked Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla to arrange "an emergency salary increase, involving a set and real amount of money that would be received by all workers without exception from February 1, 1979, in order to prevent the disruption of peace and security of Argentine homes."

This declaration was approved yesterday by the 33 leaders of this organization who met for a plenary session. In this declaration, the CNT reminds the president of his responsibilities in the present situation.

"From now on the entire country will watch you while you decide between an economic policy that has fully demonstrated its inability to solve the most burning problems of productive sectors--and has made them worse still--or social peace that can be guaranteed only by implementing the corrective measures demanded by the situation, through using power with justice and understanding for social problems," states the declaration.

The Executive Board of the CNT decided to address the president without asking him for any given amount in order to prevent technical matters from becoming the main issue and interfering with the problem's solution, according to their explanation to the journalists.

The CNT paper also mentions the "nationwide emergency situation" that is being experienced and indicates that "the Argentine workers who have given it all on behalf of a great fatherland no longer have anything to offer."

The paper adds: "They are waging a daily struggle to provide a minimum of sustenance to their children because poverty rules over their lives and they are exhausted from working more every day to earn less and less."

It goes on to say: "Therefore, the CNT addresses the president in order to convey to him, on behalf of the Argentine workers, their great concern with production difficulties and the resulting social imbalance that the country is experiencing due to the implementation of an inadequate economic system."

The CNT points out: "We seek your aid as the final instance to effect the desired changes through the exercise of commonsense and serenity, in order to attain social peace and national unity."

The union leaders add: "We are aware of our great responsibility within the process we are experiencing, but we have reached a critical point at which everything indicates an urgent need for a change of course, a decision that must be adopted firmly in order to avoid worse evils, not only to the workers but to the entire country as well."

The paper acridly indicates that "3 years of sacrifices are more than enough to evaluate the results and these results are clearly visible, not in the graphs and statistics presented at Cabinet meetings but in the everyday life of our people who have expressed themselves clearly enough."

The union leaders concluded by stating: "As representatives of millions of workers, we have a duty and a responsibility that we must assume fully and after all these efforts and sacrifices we tell you that we have reached the limit."

CGT INTERVENTOR SUMMONS CNT LEADERS OVER DOCUMENT

PY171228 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 17 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Called together by the interventor of the General Labor Confederation [CGT], Col Rolando Valentino Rojas, members of the union group called the National Labor Commission [CNT] went to the CGT's headquarters in view of the publication of a CNT document, according to reports from sources linked to the Labor Ministry. The sources also indicated that the union leaders indicated that the measure used was the result of the need to inform the nation's highest levels of the problem that affects workers. The CNT representatives emphasized that the document was at no time intended to generate violations of existing laws. On the contrary, it was meant to transmit our concern to the president of the nation, who has in his hands the responsibility of the government and sufficient power to carry out the necessary adjustments to solve the problems afflicting workers.

CANADA LOBBYING IN EARNEST FOR REACTOR DEAL

PY171348 Paris AFP in Spanish 0308 GMT 17 Feb 79 PY

[By Michel Galan]

[Text] Ottawa, 16 Feb (AFP)--Well-informed sources here today reported that the Canadian Government is maintaining contacts with Argentine authorities for a possible sale of four Candu-type nuclear reactors designed to produce electrical energy.

The cost of the operation totals about $290 million and Canada could break into that market since Argentina wishes to obtain natural uranium and heavy water plants. The Candu reactor is, for the time being, the only one that meets these requirements.

Sources linked to the Canadian Atomic Energy Agency, which constructs this reactor, emphasized that the FRG does have similar technology even though it does not build this type of reactor for its own use. The struggle between the FRG and Canada for the sale of this material to Argentina will be bitter due to the enormous amount of money at stake. In addition, both countries have exported nuclear technology to Argentina in the past. Canada is now completing the final stages of a Candu plant in Izeiza, near Buenos Aires (this contract had been concluded in 1973). Some years ago the FRG started operating a natural uranium and heavy water plant in Atucha, also located near the capital.

Both countries demand strict guarantees to control all the nuclear material, especially plutonium that is produced by fission of the atom and is used for the construction of nuclear bombs.

However, with respect to this, the FRG asks only for the observance of international regulations defined by the member nations of the advanced nuclear technology club. Meanwhile, Canada, ever since the admission of India into the nuclear club on 2 January 1977 [as received], has been much more demanding, requiring that its clients sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

The presence of two Canadian negotiators from the Ottawa Atomic Energy Control Commission this week in Buenos Aires, as well as that of members of the International Atomic Energy Agency, is considered to be a sign that Canada is a serious contender for obtaining the contract.

Meanwhile, certain leftist, religious and union groups protested--discreetly, however--this week to demand the suspension of all nuclear material exports to Argentina, arguing that this country does not respect human rights. These demonstrations can also be interpreted as another sign that the contract will be signed soon.

In any case, both Canada and the FRG--even though they cannot ignore this juicy sale--must take into consideration the public, which asks about the whereabouts of 20,000 missing persons and the fate that awaits some 5,000 prisoners in Argentina (according to data from Canadian humanitarian associations).

FOREIGN MINISTRY PLEASED WITH YACYRETA TALKS

PY211440 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 21 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry stated that the Argentine Government believes that it is quite possible to harmonize the interests of our country with Paraguay regarding the Yacyreta hydroelectric project.

The Foreign Ministry added that Jorge Pegoraro, executive director of the Yacyreta enterprise, and Arturo Arana, Argentine representative in that organization, held several meetings in Asuncion last week regarding the Paraguayan Government proposal on the possibility of conducting studies aimed at making adjustments in the design of the project in order to save more Paraguayan territory from the floods to be created by the Yacyreta dam.

In this regard, the ministry added that Argentine officials believe that there will not be any problems in making adjustments in the design of the Yacyreta dam and satisfy in this manner the Paraguayan request and that this will not represent a waste of time that may affect the project's work schedule or considerably increase its cost. The ministry recalled that according to the Argentine energy plan, it is necessary that the Yacyreta dam start producing electricity in 1985 and that the cost of the project must be reasonable in order not to affect the cost of energy.

In summary, the Argentine officials believe that it is quite possible to harmonize the interests of the two countries: reduce the flooding, maintain the work schedule and not affect considerably its cost. In conclusion, the Foreign Ministry stated that by harmonizing the two interests, the excellent dispositions of the international credit organizations regarding Yacyreta will be strengthened.

REPORT ISSUED ON 1978-79 ANTARCTIC MISSION

PY141423 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Feb 79 PY

[Text] The units of the Antarctic joint command headed by Capt Alberto Oscar Casellas are continuing with their 1978-79 Antarctic mission in the Argentine Antarctic sector. The report indicates that the mission is carrying out the replacement of personnel and supplies in the Antarctic bases of Belgrano, Orcadas, Esperanza, Primavera and Brown and in the scientific station Corbeta Uruguay. The Belgrano II Antarctic base was also dedicated and the units, in accordance with the Antarctic treaty, visited the Polish scientific station Henry Arctowsky, installed in the Antarctic in 1977.

BALBIN, RADICAL PARTY LEADERS ARRESTED, RELEASED

PY191213 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 18 Feb 79 p 1 PY

[Excerpts] Cordoba--Ricardo Balbin, president of the "Union Civica Radical" (UCR), former president Arturo Illia, and three other party leaders were released yesterday afternoon after having been detained for more than two hours by the provisional police. Balbin, Illia and Eduardo Angeloz, Jose Miguel Zamanillo and Hector Sander had been arrested at Villa Carlos Paz, some 35 kilometers from here, while taking part in a barbecue.

The arrest of Balbin occurred 62 days after he had been involved in a similar case in the vicinity of the federal capital. At that time Balbin and Radical Party leaders Antonio Troccoli and Juan Carlos Pugliese were detained. President Jorge Rafael Videla personally intervened to obtain the release of the three Radical Party leaders.

The latest arrest of Balbin and some of his aides occurred at the Villa Carlos Paz home of Eugenio Conde. Balbin had arrived in Cordoba earlier in the morning for what had been described as a "meeting of friends" to discuss informally current affairs. Following the arrests, the guests at the barbecue left the premises, but former Interior Minister Juan Palmero, former Deputy Carlos Bejas and Armando Balbin went to the local police station to find out what had happened to the arrested men.

PADILLA REQUESTS POLITICAL TRUCE IN CENTENNIAL SPEECH

PY191330 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 15 Feb 79 p 13 PY

[Speech by Gen David Padilla Arancibia, president of the Bolivian military government junta, to civic rally in Plaza Murillo, La Paz, at 1500 GMT on 14 February 1979, 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the war of the Pacific]

[Text] Countrymen:

Today, 14 February, we Bolivians withdraw to the innermost depths of our consciences and the sorrow of our hearts while remembering the most unfortunate date in our history.

Today, exactly 100 years have elapsed since our geographic imprisonment. On 14 February 1879, treacherously and after long preparation, the Chilean Navy landed its forces at the Bolivian port of Antofagasta, thus starting the war of conquest against our fatherland and Peru.

All Bolivians without exception are suffering the serious consequences of that depradatory action. The underdevelopment in which we find ourselves is aggravated by our dependence on foreign ports where we have to pay high prices for services and handling. Bolivia's forced isolation has not only been a great obstacle to its development and communication with the rest of the world; for the past century the seized territory has also meant a growing prosperity for the Chilean obligarchy, while this country has been denied the opportunity of developing dynamic industrial centers on the coast as well as access to the enormous wealth of the ocean itself.

During the 36,500 days which have passed since that fatal day when we were deprived of the sea, four generations of Bolivians have experienced the anguish of our captured coast, without losing for a single moment our determination to recover it.

This painful event is commemorated at a time when the government is in the hands of the military junta over which I have the honor of presiding and whose clear democratic objectives have had the virtue, as during few times in our history, of uniting all citizens. As is natural, ideological differences continue to separate us but the point of agreement which has always identified all those who proudly call themselves Bolivians is the will not to abandon, as long as the nation exists, the coast which had been part of the fatherland.

We are united by the memory of our heroes who fell in the desperate struggle to preserve our territorial heritage in the war of the Pacific.

We are united by our unbreakable determination to systematically strengthen the country in order to achieve a harmonious and fairly shared development by using the immense natural wealth which is left to us and in which the Bolivian people will be the principal agent.

We are united by the conviction that Bolivia will never again tolerate any oligarchies at the service of foreign interests and that the government resulting from the elections called and guaranteed by the military junta will make the structural changes necessary for us to demand social justice and the full exercise of human rights, which are the bases of democracy.

We are united by the unquestionable moral support we have received and will receive from all peoples of the world, particularly from the governments which are based on the inherent principles of international solidarity and justice.

We are united by respect and admiration for the anonymous heroes of work: the peasants, workers, mineworkers, factory workers and transport workers, intellectuals and businessmen who, constantly accompanied by our women and despite 100 years of adversity, have worked ceaselessly for the progress of Bolivia without seeking any other compensation than that of the fulfilled duty.

We are united by the conviction that today, as never before, the people and the armed forces, who are also the people, are marching shoulder to shoulder toward the goal of returning to Bolivia its true image, disfigured by the political intriguers who created an artificial division among us.

We citizens who wear the glorious uniform of the fatherland and of the armed services of the people and their institutions did not carry out just another military coup on 24 November last year; we made the solemn promise to return to our fellow citizens the full exercise of their rights. We therefore believe it is our duty to ask those who are responsible for the leadership of the political parties, professional institutions, higher education, labor unions, intellectual organizations, peasant organizations and the teachers of the nation who are forming day by day the sacred image of the fatherland in the hearts and minds of our children and youths, in a word all those who form the very essence of the Bolivian nationality, to open the way for social peace, to abolish violence, to restrain their economic demands which cannot now be satisfied because we inherited a heavy burden from those who, in the recent past, forced the country into debt to make it appear as if we were living in solid prosperity and affluence.

The military government junta desires a sincere political truce in Bolivia, making an intelligent dialog of the ideological controversy possible, in order to advance without a setback toward the high objectives we have set for us. If so, our patriotic task--that of reconstructing our republican life in the atmosphere of freedom and guarantees--will not become sterile. It will thus contribute to the return of majesty to our institutions so that democracy is not a mere word but a genuine form of national coexistence.

Our word of honor is irreversibly at stake. On the first Sunday of July, the cleanest general elections in the country's history will be held. On 6 August, we will hand over the rule of the nation to those who win the elections. The armed forces will return to their barracks to perform their specific functions and the civilian powers will again lead the destiny of Bolivia with the support of popular sovereignty.

We hope that the truce which my government is requesting from the citizens' leaders is not interpreted as an expression of weakness. While we have made the most frank, loyal and sincere decision to restore the exercise of representative democracy, we also demand a clean game so that nothing can stand in the way of the sacred hope harbored by the nation that we travel united on the road toward the state of right. It is my duty to say clearly and firmly that we will be inflexible toward those who try to place obstacles in the way of such an historic mission.

In conclusion, before we take our solemn oath, I should add, noble Bolivian brothers from all parts of the country, that we are also united by the certainty that the future of Bolivia will be as bright as the dreams of the guerrilla fighters of the war of independence, creators of the republic and civilian and military defenders of our nationality.

PRESENCIA ASSAILS CHILE IN CENTENNIAL EDITORIAL

PY201646 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Feb 79 p 3 PY

[Editorial: "A Century of Confinement"]

[Excerpts] It is no metaphor to say that the fatherland is bleeding on the 100th anniversary of its confinement. It is a painful reality. Today, as in every year since 1879, we Bolivians commemorate the sacrifice of our heroes, fallen in the war of the Pacific, and feel indignation over the stripping away of the coast which is still ours although temporarily occupied by the usurper.

We have to insist on the fact that the maritime vindication depends on our unity, which is the only way we can assert our rights before other nations. To persist in our intention to recover that which is ours means to pay homage to our forefathers and to our children and this is also a responsibility to the near and distant future of the fatherland.

Tenacity of our people in distress and misfortune has been tested many times. That tenacity is necessary, along with faith, will, work, and responsibility, to achieve what could be obtained in 100 years.

There is no room for discouragement; on the contrary, we must daily forge new hopes. To do this, we repeat, it is necessary that all Bolivians stand united. Our unity will establish the suitable policies to take us back to the sea. The unity of the nation will achieve a revision of the 1904 treaty which Chile, despite having imposed it, has so often turned into a mockery. Treaties imposed by force, which wound the dignity of a nation and postpone its aspirations of progress and contact with the world, have no value.

A hundred years after the Chilean invasion of Antofagasta, Bolivia entertains the hope that Latin American solidarity will soon become a reality.

In conclusion, is there any better homage we can pay to Bolivia than the unity of its sons? Only in this way will the coastal department, occupied by the usurper, feel honored through the memory of its heroes who knew how to defend it.

FOREIGN MINISTRY AGAIN REJECTS TERRITORIAL COMPENSATION

PY201902 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1635 GMT 20 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 20 Feb (LATIN)--Bolivia has confirmed its categorical rejection of territorial compensation to Chile for an outlet to the sea because of the impressive material benefit which Chile has enjoyed for 100 years in the vast region it seized from this country during the war of the Pacific. The categorical statement has again been officially made by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry during the commemoration this month of the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the war in which Bolivia lost its seacoast.

The docuement, released here last night, maintained that the economic benefits and profits obtained by Chile through the occupation of 120,000 square kilometers of Bolivian territory should induce that country to facilitate an agreement allowing Bolivia its own sovereign access to the ocean without territorial compensation. The document then referred to the impressive benefit enjoyed by Chile through the exploitation of natural wealth which belonged to Bolivia, such as copper, saltpeter, guano and sulfur.

PRESIDENT PADILLA CONFIRMS ARMAMENTS PURCHASE

PY191948 Paris AFP in Spanish 1405 GMT 19 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 19 Feb (AFP)--Bolivian President David Padilla confirmed today that Bolivia is purchasing armaments to improve its military position. Padilla did not give details about the purchase of armament but noted that the new acquisitions will not place a serious burden on the national budget.

Unofficial sources have noted that Bolivia is studying the purchase of a new Hercules-type transport plane, a squadron of U.S. helicopters and a squadron of Netherlands interceptors. According to the same unofficial sources, the army will acquire light armored vehicles, mortars and heavy artillery.

ENERGY MINISTER ON SALE OF GAS TO BRAZIL

PY192005 Paris AFP in Spanish 1357 GMT 19 Feb 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 19 Feb (AFP)--Bolivian Energy Minister Mario Candia stated today that the massive sale of Bolivian gas to Brazil may solve in great part the present Bolivian economic crisis. Candia reasserted the desire of the Bolivian authorities to agree on the sale of gas to Brazil through the pipeline between Santa Cruz de la Sierra and the Brazilian city of Coruma. This pipeline is still to be built and should reach 450 km in length.

The sale of Bolivian gas to Brazil has caused a general protest from leftist political parties which fear a rapid depletion of Bolivian gas reserves. Bolivia at present exports gas to Argentina through a special 430-km-long pipeline built between the two countries.

FRI MEETING ENDS IN DISSOLUTION OF FRONT

PY211254 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0804 GMT 21 Feb 79 PY

[Text] The Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI] has suffered a total disruption and dissolution after the failure of the meeting of the member parties of the front. The Marxist-Leninist Communist Party [PCML] suggested that the front form a political alliance with Victor Paz Estensoro's National Revolutionary Movement. FRI leaders placed all the balme for the front's crisis on the PCML proposal.

FRANCE SEEKING EXTRADITION OF FORMER NAZI RESIDING HERE

PY192313 Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 19 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] Paris, 19 Feb (AFP)--It was reported here today that the French Government will renew its request for the extradition of German citizen Klaus Barbie, head of the Gestapo in Lyon, who is presently taking refuge in Bolivia. This was stated by French Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Francois-Poncet in answer to a written question presented to him in parliament by Communist Senator Jacques Eberhard.

The Bolivian Supreme Court rejected this position in 1974 but, according to the minister's announcement, the French Government has given special instructions to its ambassador in La Paz to again present the request to the new Bolivian authorities. The minister stated that the government does not consider the case closed and has instructed the French ambassador to question the Bolivian authorities to determine whether they consider themselves bound by the Supreme Court decision of 6 December 1974.

CUBILLOS COMMENTS ON BOLIVIA, LETELIER CASE, OTHER ISSUES

PY161242 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Feb 79 PY

[Recorded portions indicated by quotation marks]

[Excerpts] Without going into much detail, Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos has reasserted Chile's permanent position on the Bolivian issue.

"I believe that in his speech to the OAS yesterday, Pedro Daza, our ambassador to the OAS, made everything perfectly clear. Since the press has covered his speech, I believe there is nothing further to add."

In his talk with journalists, Foreign Minister Cubillos mentioned press material being published in Washington on the Townley case. The foreign minister did not place much importance on rumors to the effect that there will be a deterioration in U.S.-Chilean relations.

"As we have said many times, the Letelier case in in the hands of justice. I do not believe we will have diplomatic problems with the United States over this case since this is a judicial matter. No speculations can be made because the process is still going on in Chile and we do not know its results.

"We trust our judicial system. The government has stressed many times that the judicial branch makes its decision independent of the executive branch. I do not see why this should give rise to diplomatic problems."

About the Vatican mediation to try to find a solution to the border dispute with Argentina, Cubillos said that the Holy See has not announced any decisions.

Diplomatic sources have noted that the pope's decision to establish a tripartite commission may be disclosed by the beginning of March. But both the Chilean Foreign Ministry and the Nunciature have no information in this regard.

"We have no news so far. We are still waiting for official information from his holiness regarding the procedures and formalities of the negotiations."

Cubillos also said that Chilean relations with Peru are normal. Peruvian Embassy sources have stated that Peruvian Ambassador Guillermo Arbulu will return to Santiago next month once his vacation period ends.

EL MERCURIO DECRIES BOLIVIAN ATTITUDE ON CENTENNIAL

PY161457 Paris AFP in Spanish 0434 GMT 16 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 15 Feb (AFP)--The newspaper EL MERCURIO stated today that the centennial of the Pacific war is being used in Bolivia to launch a sentimental offensive against Chile.

In its Friday issue, the influential newspaper states that this attitude is aimed at obtaining popular support for the regime of Bolivian President David Padilla and at obtaining a favorable disposition from international organizations toward the Bolivian cause.

The newspaper comments that since the Bolivian Government stopped practically all national activities, it was able to enjoin the public to spontaneous demonstration.

It made pronouncements to recover the seacoast, it ordered demonstrations in foreign capitals and it tolerated a public offense to the Chilean flag.

EL MERCURIO adds: It does not fall upon Chileans to judge the domestic policy of the Bolivian Government, which tried to take the issue to international organizations.

Diplomatic relations between Chile and Bolivia have been suspended since March 1978 when the Bolivian Government decided to break relations because of a stagnation in its negotiations to recover a sea outlet to the Pacific Ocean.

In its lead editorial, EL MERCURIO refers to the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Antofagasta, located 1,380 km north of Santiago, into Chilean territory.

The newspaper adds: The joyous celebration of this centennial has not motivated any antagonism against anybody. On the contrary, it has served to exhalt Chile's firm conviction of American integration and its respect for friendly and neighboring countries. The newspaper concludes by stating that it is in the interests of both Chile and Bolivia to find solutions viable and convenient for both countries and that these solutions prevail over the domestic political exploitation of certain situations whose true background can be easily established.

MERCURIO Comments Further

PY191959 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1553 GMT 19 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 19 Feb (LATIN)--The newspaper EL MERCURIO stated today that Bolivia is in a privileged position regarding its access to the Pacific Ocean through Chilean ports, as is Bolivian trade to and from Bolivian territory. Commenting on this situation in its main editorial, EL MERCURIO asserted that "this should be a model for other landlocked countries which are demanding a solution to their problems."

The editorial reports that through an agreement signed by the two countries which entered into effect in April 1978, Bolivia was granted a 10-percent discount on the dock operations for its cargo in transit through Chilean ports. EL MERCURIO adds that this situation persists despite the fact that Bolivia broke diplomatic relations with Chile in March 1978. According to the newspaper, "this decrease in tariffs has meant a $400 million reduction in annual costs for Bolivian consumers."

EL MERCURIO notes that each time "the Bolivian Government has created a situation of conflict with Chile, it has threatened to transfer its transit trade to Peruvian ports but, because of the shorter distance and greater transportation facilities on the Chilean side, the geographic situation has taken precedence over everything else."

PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT REJECTS OFFER OF AID

PY170102 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] The Chilean Government has announced its immediate intention to send an air force cargo plane with medicine and first aid for those affected by the Peruvian earthquake. Curiously enough, however, the Chilean offer has been rejected, at least for the moment, according to an official report by Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Garcia Vedoya, who added that in case help is needed, it will be requested in due time.

In this regard, acting Interior Minister Col Enrique Montero indicated that in the afternoon the Peruvian foreign minister expressed his gratitude and said that for the time being the aid is not necessary, and that for this reason the Chilean offer is being held in abeyance until such time as it is considered necessary by the Peruvian Government.

JUDGE SAYS EXTRADITION DECISION WILL BE 'SIGNIFICANT'

PY171559 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0205 GMT 17 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 16 Feb (LATIN)--Judge Israel Borquez, who is handling the extradition procedures against three Chilean officers allegedly involved in the death of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, today stated that the decision soon to be handed down will be significant.

The magistrate, who is the president of the Supreme Court, refused to give his opinion regarding the decision made by an American jury which found anti-Castro Cubans Ignacio and Guillermo Novo and Alvin Ross guilty of the assassination of Letelier and his aide Ronnie Moffit. However, in answer to a journalist's question, he said: Here in Chile, something much more important and significant is at stake, such as the extradition case. This allows me to say that the verdict will undoubtedly be a great decision. He then emphasized that it is not possible to establish any dates at this time.

Judge Borquez will have to decide sometime during March whether or not the extradition request made by the U.S. Justice Department against former Director of the now disbanded National Intelligence Department [DINA] Gen Manuel Contreras (ret), former DINA Chief of Operations Col Pedro Espinoza and former agent Capt Armando Fernandez, who are now under arrest here, will be granted.

More on Extradition Proceedings

PY200140 Paris AFP in Spanish 0034 GMT 20 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 19 Feb (AFP)--It was disclosed here today that a period of 20 days has been given to the defense of the Chilean officers involved in the Letelier case to present observations to the extradition summary. President of the Supreme Court Israel Borquez notified lawyer Sergio Miranda, defense attorney for Gen Manuel Contreras and Col Pedro Espinoza, that he could present all the points he considers appropriate. Miranda expressed his agreement with the period established, which begins on Tuesday, and announced that he will probably request some court proceedings along with his presentation of the documents in support of his clients.

ARGENTINA QUERIED ON DETENTION OF ALLEGED SPIES

PY211539 Paris AFP in Spanish 1519 GMT 21 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Feb (AFP)--The Chilean Foreign Ministry today told its ambassador in Argentina to investigate the situation of four Chileans detained in that country charged with acts of espionage. According to journalistic reports, the four Chileans have been detained and held incommunicado for 30 days in Comodoro Rivadavia.

Acting Foreign Minister Gen Enrique Valdes said that the Chilean Embassy in Buenos Aires is continuously involved in presenting similar cases affecting other Chileans to the Argentine Foreign Ministry.

GEN BOLIVAR JARRIN TO BE TRIED BY MILITARY COURT

PA211611 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Gen Bolivar Jarrin Cahuenas, former government minister and alleged mastermind of the Abdon Calderon Munoz murder, will be tried by a military court in line with the decision handed down by Supreme Court President Gonzalo Karolys, who disqualified himself from handling the Calderon case. However, the other persons who are implicated in the case, including agents and employees of the political security police, will be tried by the 10th Guayas Criminal Court. According to Karolys' decision, in the present state of affairs, military members, even though they are serving in public administration, are subject to [armed forces] laws and come under the jurisdiction of judges of the armed forces. In this context, General Jarrin, who is accused of being one of the masterminds of the Abdon Calderon Munoz murder, will be tried as a military member in active service and not as a government minister on the date of the murder, 29 November 1978.

However, Karolys' decision has not put an end to the legal controversy surrounding the trial. In effect, Karolys Martinez sent the files of the case to the Supreme Court plenum for a definitive decision on the problem, which is delaying the application of the law against the terrorists who murdered Calderon. In the meantime, General Jarrin Cahuenas' defending lawyer, Guayaquil lawyer Hector Solorzano Constantine, was exceptionally pleased over Karolys Martinez' decision. Solorzano noted that one of the main arguments of Jarrin's defense has been the demand for military judges.

CEPE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES RENEGOTIATION OF OIL CONTRACTS

PA191548 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 19 Feb 79 PA

[Interview with economist Abelardo Pachano, assistant administrative manager of the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Will long-range oil export contracts be renegotiated? If so, what would be the consequences of these renegotiations?

[Answer] The public is well aware of the fact that as a result of Iran's political crisis, the world's hydrocarbons market has undergone serious modifications. Due to this situation, the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation [CEPE] has begun a process for the complete renegotiation of all the long-range sales contracts currently in effect. The buying or refining companies have already agreed to begin renegotiating, and CEPE's stand is to establish a price that closely reflects conditions on the international market. Depending on our viewpoint, consequences can be of various types. For instance, from the standpoint of the external sector of the economy, and on the basis of a very careful analysis of oil's [word indistinct] on the world market, we can say that the country's balance of payments will approximately receive an additional $100 million during 1978 [as heard]. This represents a considerable sum of money for the country and will guarantee some security and tranquillity to the Central Bank.

[Question] Economist, does this mean that the previous contracts were wrong?

[Answer] No, not at all. But there have been radical changes in the behavior of the hydrocarbons market in January and so far this month. Until January, oil prices were the ones established in our contracts; but this month we have become aware that our oil production is not sufficient to satisfy the demand, and this circumstance has greatly increased the price of hydrocarbons.

COSTA RICA

CUBA, CHILE, NICARAGUA BOYCOTT BEING DISCUSSED

PA211847 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Labor leaders from eight countries--the Central American countries, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela--are meeting in San Jose to plan a general boycott against Cuba, Chile and Nicaragua. The boycott will consist of not handling air and sea cargo to those countries.

Labor leaders said that this is the workers' way of condemning the recent assassination of Nicaraguan labor leader Luis Medrano and of protesting the dictatorships in Cuba and Chile.

FORMER PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY SOUGHT AS NICARAGUAN MEDIATOR

PA211909 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Former President Daniel Oduber has been meeting in the past few days with Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria at his country home, La Flor. National Liberation Party circles disclosed that Oduber has also met with President Jimmy Carter's special envoy, who is trying to get Oduber's help in finding a solution to the Nicaraguan conflict. The reason for this is that apparently the U.S. Government has lost control of the situation and wishes to have Oduber as a mediator despite the present government's opposition. Oduber and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez met not too long ago to discuss the Nicaraguan situation, National Liberation circles added. The same circles also confirmed that Oduber will leave for Mexico and the United States to discuss with government officials his possible mediation with Somoza.

Interior Minister Echeverria was commissioned to talk to Oduber because Foreign Relations Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier refused to talk to Oduber. Because Oduber has maintained good relations with Somoza, President Carter and high-ranking Pentagon officials believe that he could be the man to find a satisfactory solution to the problem.

It was disclosed yesterday that Oduber is leaving for Mexico in early April. He will hold talks with President Lopez-Portillo in Mexico. From there he will go to the United States for talks with William Rogers, assistant secretary for inter-American affairs.

Oduber Denial

PA220122 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Text] When former President Daniel Oduber Quiros learned of our report stating that he had been proposed as a mediator at the request of the U.S. President, he said that it was not true. In a telephone interview with one of our reporters, Oduber said that he has not met with Carter's envoys at any time to discuss his participation as mediator with President Somoza. Please say that it is false, the former president said. He reiterated that he is dedicated to personal and business matters.

BANANA COMPANY REPORTS ON LOSSES DUE TO STRIKE

PA220247 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Text] After 13 days of complete paralysis of the various agricultural activities, the Costa Rican Banana Company has reported economic losses in excess of 26 million colones.

Alvaro Madrigal, the company's legal adviser and information chief, said that in this way [words indistinct] economic losses that were indirectly caused by the strike carried out by the Golfito Workers' Union. He noted that the exact amount of money needed to recover part of the lost production will be estimated in the next few days. It is not yet known when the company will cut and ship bananas, Alvaro Madrigal reported. It was learned that the field supervisors are ordering that bananas be propped up and bagged. The first step is being taken in order to avoid spoilage since the fruit has increased in weight over the past few days. The second step is being carried out to isolate it from disease.

GUATEMALA

FORMER PRESIDENT RETURNS TO POLITICAL LIFE

PA180256 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2222 GMT 17 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 17 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Gen Carlos Manuel Arana Osorio, who was president of Guatemala from 1970 to 1974, today returned to active political life as "top leader" of the new Authentic Nationalist Central (CAN) Party. The former president said his return "does not in any way mean that I plan to be nominated once again for the presidency. The constitution expressly prohibits it and second terms never were good."

CAN is the latest party to be legally recognized. It is the result of the formation of a group around General Arana Osirio, whose initials were the basis of the name of the party which was originally called the Authentic Organized Central (CAO). From a group that supported Arana Osorio's candidacy in 1969, the CAO subsequently registered as a "committee in support of the organization of a political party," a process that culminated in its legal recognition last month.

Although described as "rightist," the new party, through its main leaders, has rejected the label, instead characterizing itself as "a party that solely and expressly supports nationalist ideology as the basis of the fatherland's development."

Luis Alfonso Lopez, another CAN leader and former president of Congress, has indicated that "time has bypassed the overused concepts of communist or anticommunist, right or left. Now one should only speak of nationalists or non-nationalists."

During today's discussion of the party's bylaws there was special emphasis on the position that "CAN supports a nationalism that involves unlimited respect for human rights and the existence of social justice." At the same time, the party issued an "emphatic and categoric" rejection of all totalitarian trends "of whatever type," as well as of the use of violence "as an inhuman method that has been adopted to eliminate ideological differences."

HONDURAS

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GUATEMALA SUSPENDED

PA172304 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1654 GMT 17 Feb 79 PA

[By Armando Cerrato]

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 17 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Honduras and Guatemala decided last night to suspend negotiations on the extension of a bilateral trade treaty that expired on 10 February after being in force 8 years. The negotiations were suspended when the commissions reached an "impasse" since Guatemala opposes expansion of the lists of textiles and synthentic fibers that Honduras wants to sell on the Guatemalan market.

The commissions, headed by Guatemalan Economy Vice Minister Gilberto Corso and Honduran Economy Vice Minister Rigoberto Alvarenga, held a tense 5-hour meeting.

Honduran industrialists opposed the extension of the bilateral treaty since they were aware of the Guatemalan industrialists' position. They pressured the government to modify its position and demand expansion of the trade lists.

The Hondurans argued that they have a trade deficit of almost $15 million with Guatemala and that they need fairer treatment as their industries have grown and can compete in the quantity and quality on the Guatemalan market.

The Guatemalans asked for the suspension of the negotiations in order to consult with their government and Guatemalan producers since they will be affected by the Honduran competition.

VICE FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES ARREST OF SANDINISTS

PA211809 Progreso Radio Progreso in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Feb 79 PA

[Excerpt] Honduran Vice Foreign Minister [name indistinct] Ramon Hernandez (Alferro) said just after a private meeting with the military government that he had been officially notified of the arrest of 11 Sandinists by the national army so that he can make contacts with friendly countries to proceed with their extradition. Hernandez (Alferro) said that he would immediately contact several governments--without saying which--so that, following the procedures of international treaties, they could be sent where they would be received.

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA INVITES OPPOSITION TO ORGANIZE FOR ELECTIONS

PA172012 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1906 GMT 17 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 17 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--In this capital today, Saturday, Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza invited the opposition to organize in order to determine how they can reach power in the 1981 presidential elections.

Somoza spoke over a national radio network during a ceremony held here to inaugurate the telecommunications infrastructure works valued at 148.9 million cordobas ($21.2 million).

Somoza said that an understanding among the Nicaraguan family can only be reached through the process of a presidential election. He added that at present every Nicaraguan should strongly consider the existing violence in the country "because a few politicians want to seize power through undemocratic methods."

After saying that the National Guard maintains a monolithic stance "to insure that the constitution and the laws of the country are respected," Somoza called for a dialog "because we cannot continue destroying what we have built with so much sacrifice."

Somoza's call for a dialog comes at a time when the recent mediation process between the government and the opposition promoted by the OAS has been considered a failure.

Somoza, who in his two latest speeches has referred to the new U.S. State Department attitude toward his government, said that "the violence unleashed by a few had to be faced bravely and courageously."

Somoza's statements come at a time when the country is experiencing a spiraling crime wave resulting from violent actions against the government which the public force is trying to put down throughout the country through an impressive amount of patrolling. As a matter of fact, the National Patriotic Front (FPN) Executive Secretariat seized Our Lady of Fatima Church in Managua this morning in a peaceful demonstration that is to last for 48 hours. The FPN is protesting the deaths of five youths in a church in Leon on 15 February. The front, which comprises parties and leftist organizations, demanded the immediate creation of a united front against repression and in defense of life.

In a communique to the public the FPN voiced its hopes that Archbishop of Managua Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo can get the churches in Nicaragua, the Broad Opposition Front (FAO), the universities, private enterprises and other opposition political groups to make a joint effort to condemn and stop the dictatorship's repressive violence.

RADIO RELOJ REPORTS SITUATION IN NICARAGUA, BORDER CLASH

PA212120 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Excerpts] The killing of a colonel, the exploding of bombs of various sizes, the seizure of several military posts and the intensification of shootouts last night and early this morning are among the activities undertaken during the last few hours by the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] in Nicaragua a few hours before the anniversary of Augusto Cesar Sandino's death. A colonel was murdered while heading for his ranch in Matagalpa. He had participated in the assassination of the general of free men. The following is a report from Managua, Nicaragua, by our correspondent Filadelfo Aleman:

[Begin Aleman recording in progress] ... Along with his son (Jackie) and two other persons in the city of Matagalpa on the eve of the anniversary of the death of Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino, who inspired the Sandinist guerrillas operating in Nicaragua that have been named after him. According to our historical data, 45 years ago Colonel Davidson Blanco and a group of men participated in the operation "death to Sandino," which was launched by Gen Anastasio Somoza Garcia, father of the current Nicaraguan president.

Colonel Davidson Blanco was heading for his ranch Los Limones, in Matagalpa Department, when a Sandinist Front squadron attacked and shot him. Only two members of his party were not killed and they were being interrogated last night in Matagalpa. The incident occurred yesterday around noon. Later in the day, still on the eve of the anniversary of Sandino's death, the city of Niquinomo was attacked by four FSLN squadrons that cut the telegraph, telephone and electric lines and engaged in a serious 1-hour shootout with National Guard soldiers from the Niquinomo headquarters. Later, the Sandinists also attacked the city of Diria, but no casualties have yet been reported from either clash.

Last Saturday, the FSLN issued a communique announcing a new national insurrection more intense, better armed and better organized than the one launched last September. The communique stated that several high-ranking National Guard officers had been sentenced to death, but Colonel Davidson Blanco was not mentioned in it. It did mention Gen Anastasio Somoza Portocarrerro, son of President Anastasio Somoza Debayle.

Meanwhile, bombs of different sizes exploded all night yesterday in the city of Managua and occasional shots could be heard. The explosion of bombs intensified early this morning, apparently to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino, who was born on 18 May 1895 in Niquinomo City, 84 years ago and was killed on 21 February 1934. [end recording]

Now we will hear a report from the country's northern border at Penas Blancas with details about the clash currently taking place between the FSLN and the National Guard in El Valle Mountains. Here is the report from the border:

[Begin Jose Luis Alvarado recording] A serious confrontation has been taking place between the National Guard and the FSLN in the place known as El Valle Mountains. The clash began at approximately 1105 and we hope it will soon come to an end or (?we will all be sent to La Cruz, because the noises we are hearing) are shots from mortars, M-16's, .50-caliber machineguns and other types of weapons.

[Question] Are the public forces in Penas Blancas or have they been ordered back to La Cruz? What is the situation?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] but they have not yet given any type of urgent instructions about our evacuation.

[Question] Is traffic heavy across the border at this time? Are there any passenger buses?

[Answer] Yes, only [word indistinct] buses are here, as well as trucks and many vans. They have not reached the border but [words indistinct].

[Question] Approximately how many persons are now in Penas Blancas?

[Answer] There may be about 300 persons, including drivers, tourists, and so forth.

[Question] [Words indistinct] are shots being heard from the left or the right?

[Answer] On the right side, as you head toward Nicaragua, [words indistinct] the agriculture and livestock building.

[Question] How many kilometers or meters from the border?

[Answer] About 500 meters.

[Question] Can shooting still be heard?

[Answer] Yes, it can still be heard occasionally.

[Question] Has the Red Cross or some other authority shown up there?

[Answer] No, they have not given any emergency instructions about evacuating the border area or any such thing.

[Question] [Words indistinct] mobilization of the National Guard in the area?

[Answer] [Words indistinct]

[Question] [Words indistinct]

[Answer] Well, it began (?about 4 days before) Tuesday. [Words indistinct] heard the shots, we had not heard anything before today.

[Question] Could you tell us about the people in transit through the border area?

[Answer] We are all calm and used to what we are experiencing. We are only waiting for the Civil Guard to tell us if we have to evacuate the border area. [end recording]

We have broadcast directly from Penas Blancas with our correspondent Jose Luis Alvarado, who has just reported on a clash that has been taking place since 1105 between members of the FSLN and the Nicaraguan National Guard. Reportedly, intense shooting can be heard from mortars, bazookas, .50-caliber machineguns and M-16 rifles. Many people are currently at the border post. The border has not yet been closed, but it is assumed that it will be closed within the next few minutes. The people in the area are simply waiting for the Civil Guard to order the evacuation to Las Cruces.

CARAZO ODIO ACCUSED OF 'RUINING' COSTA RICA

PA211441 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2355 GMT 20 Feb 79 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Carazo Odio is ruining Costa Rica. The evidently aggressive anti-Nicaragua policy of current Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio will shortly act like a boomerang to the detriment of his own country. It is a well-known fact that the Costa Rican president parrots the anti-Nicaraguan slogans that are repeated every day by Radio Moscow and Radio Havana. The Carazo administration literally repeats all those slogans that tend to [word indistinct] the Central American nations and undermine the democratic strength of the United States. What are the communist countries trying to do with it? [Words indistinct] they are trying to find a way to install a puppet government in Nicaragua and later (?focus) on the remainder of Central America and immediately create serious problems for the continent. In the case of Carazo Odio, what is he seeking with his attacks against Nicaragua and his open complicity with the (?communist) campaign? He is simply seeking a way to ruin his own country, to economically ruin the businesses of what used to be the harmonious and peaceful Switzerland of Central America.

He is converting Costa Rica's green and [word indistinct] provinces into fields of conflict and springboards of communist hordes. What used to be the Guanacaste Province has become terrain suitable for armed gangs, men without God and law and terrorists who have forced working families to flee from criminal elements who do not hesitate to sow death and destruction. Carazo Odio's policy has fallen as a curse upon his unfortunate country.

APPOINTMENTS OF NEW COMMANDERS CONFIRMED

PA211900 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0340 GMT 21 Feb 79 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan National Guard Command has confirmed the appointments of two new departmental commanders who assumed their posts on Friday. The first is Gen Gonzalo Evertz, who was transferred from the Rivas Command to Leon. The second is Col Alesio Gutierrez, who was transferred from the 3d National Guard Company in Managua to the Rivas Departmental Command. Both militarymen gave lengthy statements to newsmen in Rivas and Leon upon assuming their new duties. They agreed that they arrived at their new posts with the intention of working with determination and especially with discipline, to maintain peace, progress and tranquillity in their respective jurisdictions.

SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM RALLY HELD; FIDEL CASTRO SPEAKS

SRV Charge d'Affaires Assails PRC

FL212346 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 2255 GMT on 21 February carries live color coverage of a public rally being held at 23d and L streets, El Vedado, Havana, to express Cuban solidarity with Vietnam and condemn the Chinese invasion of that country.

Coverage opens with a portrait of Ho Chi Minh superimposed on the screen and shots of the Cuban and Vietnamese flags. The Dais has a portrait of Ho Chi Minh and signs reading: "There is nothing more precious than independence and freedom" and "as the Yankees yesterday, the Chinese will be defeated in Vietnam." Various slogans of support for Vietnam and condemning China are superimposed on the screen from time to time. Some of the people in the crowd carry placards and an unrecognizable effigy. An unidentified television announcer describes the scene pending the start of the rally. He also gives details of the fighting in Vietnam, stressing Chinese defeats and casualties.

At 2322 GMT, Fidel Castro and other officials arrive on the dais and are applauded by the crowd. The Cuban national anthem is played shortly thereafter, followed by the Vietnamese anthem.

Staff announcer Manolo Ortega acts as master of ceremony and sets the scene by announcing the purpose of the rally. In addition to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, he announces others presiding over the event as members of the Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee; the Vietnamese charge d'affaires and other members of the embassy; and party, state and mass organization officials.

Ortega then introduces the Vietnamese charge d'affaires, who begins speaking at 2329 GMT. (Tram Huu Sui), speaking in Spanish, immediately assails the Chinese rulers for their "systematic anti-Vietnamese policy" aimed at subjugating the Vietnamese people and taking over the country. However, he adds, all their maneuvers have been defeated. He says the Chinese allied themselves with the Yankees to frustrate the Vietnamese victory "and failed." They incited ethnic Chinese and failed. They cut off economic assistance, he adds, "and failed."

He says the Chinese dominated Kampuchea and caused a border war with Vietnam, and they failed. The reactionary Chinese rulers are desperate; therefore, they "have unleashed a war of aggression against Vietnam." And, he says, they are now speaking of an alleged withdrawal from Vietnam but "it is just a maneuver to paralyze vigilance." Actually, he says, Chinese troops are still occupying various points of our territory. (Huu Sui) then demands an end to the Chinese Aggression and withdrawal of the troops from Vietnam, or they will be defeated.

Vietnam, he says, will be a tomb for the Chinese expansionists. We urge the socialist countries and the nonalined countries to maintain their vigilance, he says, and to intensify their solidarity until the Beijing rulers cease their aggression and withdraw all of their troops from Vietnam.

The charge d'affaires then recalls the unity between the Cuban and Vietnamese Communist parties which, he says, are united by the same ideal, the same principles and by the struggle against the same enemies. He says the Cuban people now are offering their solidarity with Vietnam and the "most decisive and firm support."

He recalls that Fidel Castro earlier called for stopping China's criminal hands. In recent days, he says, the Cuban press and people have repudiated the Chinese aggression and expressed support for Vietnam. We have witnessed the Cuban willingness to help our country at a critical time, he says. Once again, he adds, we express to the Cuban party, government and dear Comrade Fidel our sincerest and deepest gratitude. He then says: Hands off Vietnam! Viva the militant solidarity between Cuba and Vietnam! Viva Fidel! Cuba and Vietnam, united they will win! He ends his speech at 2343 GMT

Jaime Crombet Stresses Solidarity

FL220034 [Editorial Report FL] Jaime Crombet, member of the PCC Central Committee and Havana City party first secretary, begins speaking at 2344 GMT.

Crombet stresses the presence of so many people to express their solidarity with the heroic people of Vietnam, who once again see their territory violated. It is not the first time the Cuban people have reaffirmed such support, he says. We will always be willing to give our sweat and blood for Vietnam, he adds.

We are united with Vietnam by many things, he says. We are members of the socialist community and inspired by the principles of Marxism and Leninism. Besides we have a history of heroism and courage. Crombet then cites Vietnamese struggles against invaders, including "the Yankees." And now, he adds, the Chinese clique has unleashed a war against the Vietnamese people. The aggression is nothing more than a direct result of the cowardly, criminal and opportunistic policy of the Chinese rulers. It proves their irresponsibility, he says.

Crombet says the Chinese were not satisfied with their defeat in Kampuchea. They now are involved in an action which proves the fallacy of their policies toward their own people. They shamefully proclaim that they want to punish Vietnam, he says, because Vietnam has not helped their hegemonic aspirations in Southeast Asia and has become a serious obstacle. Crombet says: We are sure the heroic Vietnamese people will give them a lesson with the solidarity of firm and certain friends headed by the Soviet Union.

Crombet goes on to compare the Chinese rulers' action with those of Nazi Germany, specifically mentioning Hitler's actions against Poland. The Chinese acted the same way toward Vietnam, he adds, and history repeats itself. He continues comparing Nazi and Chinese actions.

Crombet goes on to say that today the balance of forces favors the peace-loving forces. Vietnam has on its side the best and most honest part of mankind. He then turns to Chinese actions against Vietnam over past centuries. He also discusses plundering of Vietnam by the French in the past century and the emergence of Ho Chi Minh as the organizer of the Communist Party. He adds that the struggle began to end colonial domination, but the French delivered Vietnam to the Japanese. The Communist Party proposed to carry on an armed insurrection in 1940, he says, to gain independence and freedom. A guerrilla war and uprisings then began, until Ho Chi Minh's independence proclamation. But, Crombet says, the French attacked again and were defeated and forced to sign a peace treaty. Crombet continues along historical lines, discussing the puppet government in South Vietnam and armed resistance against "Yankee intervention" in 1960.

Crombet says the United States conducted a 15-year genocidal war in Vietnam. The Yankees, he says, carried out a so-called special war and local war and air war over North Vietnam.

But none of this prevented the Vietnamese from gaining their liberty and sovereignty.

The Central Committee member then says that the Chinese are endangering peace with their action in Vietnam. They are again causing the death of combatants, old men and women and children in Vietnam. The Chinese have shown their fanatical anti-Sovietism. But, he says, the day is not far when the Chinese people themselves will demand an accounting from their rulers. Crombet then cites Ernesto Che Guevara on the greatness of the Vietnamese people and the lesson that their struggle represented for the world.

Continuing, Crombet again condemns the Chinese aggression as well as their support for Chilean junta chief Pinochet, their support for Holden Roberto in Angola, their support for Ethiopia's enemies and their "meddling in Kampuchea" for the purpose of dominating all of Southeast Asia. He says the Chinese rulers have betrayed socialism, and that Vietnam is not alone. We must strongly repudiate the action of the Chinese Government, demand an end to the aggression and maintain our struggle for "international detente" to establish the peace so desired by mankind.

Crombet says many countries have condemned the aggression on Vietnam, which has a hard task of national reconstruction, and we reaffirm our solidarity with the Vietnamese, and "we are willing to give our own blood for Vietnam." We reiterate today, he says, that Cuba "is unconditionally on the side of the heroic people of Vietnam, and once again we reiterate" that our determination is: "For Vietnam we are willing to give our own blood."

Crombet ends at 0011 GMT saying, among other things: "Commander in Chief: At your orders for Vietnam."

Fidel Castro is introduced and begins speaking at 0013 GMT.

Fidel Castro Speaks

FL220140 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0013 GMT 22 Feb 79 FL

[Speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro at mass rally of solidarity with the Vietnamese people held at Havana City's La Rampa Vedado, on 21 February 1979--live]

[Text] Compatriots: I was not supposed to make a speech at this event. Like you, I came here to express my personal solidarity with the Vietnamese people. [applause] The closing remarks were made by Comrade Jaime Crombet, and he did so very well. [applause] But, because I have been asked to come to the dais--I believe the decision was made by the master of ceremonies--I am going to speak very briefly.

In reality, this moment in which we are living is not just any moment. We have met many times; many problems have arisen throughout the world in recent times, but doubtlessly this is one of the gravest if not the gravest of recent times. Above all, it requires profound consideration. Of course this is one of the most repugnant, most cowardly, most wretched we have ever witnessed. It is very difficult to find any worse than this aggression against Vietnam.

If previous crimes were grave, this is the gravest of them all, because it is not being perpetrated by Japanese colonialists or imperialists, or French colonialists, or Yankee imperialists.

It is being perpetrated by a country that until a few years ago was considered a bulwark of the world revolutionary movement, that was considered a socialist country, an anti-imperialist country, a country friendly to the revolutionary movement, a country that, as we have said before, carried out a revolution that was seen by all countries of the world and all progressive forces in the world as a sign of hope.

We were well aware of imperialism. We were well aware of colonialism. But never did anyone think a few years ago that this would ever happen. It is the most repugnant case of treason to the revolutionary movement in mankind's history. [applause] Of course, we are not going to say that the Chinese people have perpetrated this treason. It is not the Chinese people. It cannot be the Chinese people. It is a clique of villains, fascists who have seized the leadership of the Chinese people. [applause] In reality, we do not believe the Chinese people are capable of doing this. We do not believe it. Much less a people of the quality, spirit and the revolutionary spirit of the Chinese people. At this time those people do not know that Vietnam is being attacked, that Vietnam is being invaded. Those people are being cynically misled through all the means of mass dissemination--radio, television and newspapers--in the hands of that clique.

Despite that, it is not easy to mislead a nation. That is why I ask myself: Why has the Chinese leadership not yet informed the people about that war of aggression, that shameful invasion being waged against the Vietnamese people? They talk about a Vietnamese aggression against China. They talk about a Chinese counterattack.

What has been said here in connection with the methods being used by that government is no exaggeration. Needless to say, it is not known what is going on inside China. Things are not known, such as the problems, the differences they face; which faction is determining the policy at this time; who is responsible; what the sanctions will be for those responsible for this war and for this incredible adventure. It very clearly appears that the leader of this despicable act, this crime, the No 1 responsible person appears to be this jerk, this puppet, this impudent character, Deng Xiaoping, who was purged once, returned again, purged once more and returned. Maybe he is purged once more--it could happen. No one knows the factions existing there. For many years now the various factions have been purging each other. They purge each other, rehabilitate, purge again and rehabilitate once more until the day comes when the Chinese people will have purged them all. [applause]

Ah, but they are dangerous, very dangerous. What has been said in [the daily] GRANMA and what was mentioned by our comrade tonight on [their] methods, how this brings to mind step by step the fascist methods, Hitler's, and how this happening makes us [see] the similarity with that other one that began with one of these adventures and ended in a world war--the invasion of Poland by Hitler's troops in September 1939...it was a case exactly the same. The documents were made public later on--who participated, who planned the operation, including films explaining how the incident occurred and how the Nazis used common prisoners they released from prison and dressed in German uniforms to attack a German radio station, and how they immediately thereafter unleashed the attack.

For many days now, China has been conducting a campaign of harassment against Vietnam. Who does not know the Vietnamese? Their intelligence? Their wisdom? How much intelligence do the Vietnamese have? [applause] Who can imagine Vietnam interested in clashing with China? Nevertheless, hundreds of acts of harassment by the Chinese have been taking place on the border. This plan was not hatched just now. This plan has been in preparation for a long time. It has become a reality now.

Why did the Chinese and North Americans hold the ping-pong games? Why did Kissinger travel to Beijing? Why the Nixon visits while the imperialist aggression against Vietnam intensified? It was a prepared plan, a maneuver. In reality the Chinese were not interested that there would be an independent Vietnam, a united Vietnam, independent and revolutionary. They were not interested in the least. We can recall that when the puppet regime was still in power in the south, they invaded some islands that belong to Vietnam.

As long as the Yankees were there they did not invade any of the islands in South Vietnam. But when the Yankees left they invaded the islands. It was thought that the islands were rich in natural resources, that oil could be found there and so forth. And when the south had not yet been liberated but the Yankees had left, they attacked and seized islands that belong to Vietnam.

Later on, they devoted themselves to working in Kampuchea under the pretext of aiding the Kampuchean revolution. They entered Kampuchea and were able to control the movement with people who were unconditionally at their command, some of Chinese origin and others related to the Chinese, married to Chinese, and little by little they seized control of the leadership of the Kampuchean revolutionary movement. What did they do there?

On behalf of the revolution, on behalf of socialism, they established there one of the most monstrous regimes in recent times. They emptied the cities using bayonets. This does not mean that it might [not] become necessary to evacuate a city because of a situation, due to a necessity at some point in time. A revolutionary method is using persuasion with the people, with the masses, when there is a real need of a military nature or any other type. No, they emptied the cities at the point of a bayonet. They separated families, organized gigantic concentration camps. They even established marriage by decree--I do not know if that is correct. No, it cannot be by decree. It was something unusual.

They would tell each person with whom they would have to marry. [laughter in the crowd] These were forced marriages. On the other hand, they separated men from women, children from their families. They practically exterminated all the country's technicians. They perpetrated unbelievable massacres. That is known by the entire world. It is not something new. It is believed that 3 million persons died in 2 and a half or 3 years. That was Maoism in practice. This is a Maoism that the Chinese did not even put into practice in China, but implemented in Kampuchea. It was true genocide. There was no government that could sustain itself on such foundations. It was absolutely impossible. It was a policy of extermination on the one hand, of encirclement of Vietnam on the other.

They incited the Kampuchean fascists to conduct aggression against Vietnam. The aggression began in the south from the Kampuchean border. We have seen the films showing the massacre of tens of thousands of Vietnamese, men, women, children. That one was one of the most brutal, criminal, genocidal governments ever known. It had to blow up some day, and it did. This could not be maintained in Kampuchea or anywhere else in the world. I believe that one of the best things that could have ever happened was the overthrow of that fascist and genocidal group in Kampuchea. [applause]

The well-known clique of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary was swept away by the people. That clique crumbled like a castle of playing cards. Therefore, it not only meant the liberation of Kampuchea and of a nation that could not continue living under those conditions, but also meant a tremendous defeat for the Government of China.

The Yankee imperialists, who were masters of simulation and hypocrisy, and I said they were because now they have others who are more so than they were, began to cry to high heaven because the two regimes--as a result of relations between China [and the United States] and the rapprochement between China and the United States--were interested in encircling Vietnam. The U.S. Government speaks of human rights, and in the U.S. Senate there was a proposal for international intervention to put an end to the genocide that was taking place in Kampuchea. And what was happening [in Cambodia] was reported an infinite number of times in the world press and in the U.S. press itself.

However, as soon as that genocidal regime fell, they initiated a violent world campaign against Vietnam for the latter's solidarity with the Kampuchean revolutionary movement. It was an attempt to present Vietnam to world public opinion as an aggressor country, as a country that violates the independence of other nations. And they denied the real fact that that regime was unsustainable and could not be sustained. Naturally, all this represented a tremendous blow for the Chinese leadership clique. Starting at that time, the acts of aggression and attacks on Vietnam along the border were multiplied while they massed troops. The entire world knew that China was massing troops on the Vietnamese border.

In that situation came the visit of Deng Xiaoping to the United States. That supercynic [laughter from the crowd] declared there that Vietnam and Cuba had to be punished. [laughter] That is what he said, that Vietnam and Cuba had to be punished. He was telling the Yankees: You punish Cuba. [laughter] Look what we have come to [laughter] with the government of a country that trained the youths, the Pioneers with bayonets, stabbing straw effigies of Nixon--not Nixon--the United States, imperialism and Nixon himself; indeed, they stabbed Nixon's straw belly, yes, the straw belly, before making this final turn they have made. It is the same country that used to send so many telegrams to revolutionaries everywhere in the world. One billion Chinese supported them. No, the figure at that time was 800 million. Eight hundred million Chinese support you and you can count on the solidarity of 800 million Chinese, [they used to say,] and then 900 million and so forth.

Of course, certain strange things were noted in the Chinese leadership very early. For example, during the October [1962 missile] crisis the world was on the verge of war. It was an extremely grave situation, and the Chinese remained silent and devoted themselves to making a little war against India to take a strip of territory from India. But during that entire period of the October crisis they remained silent. They did not say a single word.

Subsequently, they began making statements and charges and tried to make an intrigue with regard to the entire problem of the October crisis.

But who could have imagined that that country, that the government of that country, would end up telling the Yankees: Cuba must be punished and Vietnam must be punished. These were statements of Deng Xiaoping in the United States.

Later, in Japan, he repeated his statement about Vietnam: Vietnam must be punished.

And it is known today because one of those internal bulletins came into the hands of a foreign journalist, and it was published that the day following Deng Xiaoping's return he met with the Military Committee of the Chinese Communist Party which he heads. He spent 3 or 4 days meeting with them, and it was there that it was decided to speed up the shipment of massive troop reinforcements to the border with Vietnam and to attack Vietnam. This was immediately upon his return from the United States.

What did Deng Xiaoping discuss with Brzezinski? What did Deng Xiaoping discuss with Carter? Did the U.S. Government know or not? Was it aware or not of the Chinese plan of aggression and the invasion of Vietnam? That is a very important question. How can it be explained that upon his return from the United States he convened the Military Committee and ordered the invasion of Vietnam? The certain fact is that the U.S. Government has politically associated itself with the invasion of Vietnam. It has associated itself politically. Moreover, a North American senator recently reported that Brzezinski had told him that now the Vietnamese would have to withdraw from Kampuchea. That was the statement.

And the U.S. Government--which unquestionably was well aware [presumably of the invasion plan] and without any doubt has associated itself with this Beijing adventure--states that the Chinese must withdraw...[Castro corrects himself] that the Vietnamese must withdraw from Kampuchea so that the Chinese will withdraw from Vietnam. The Yankee imperialists and Chinese rulers have made a common cause with this invasion. They have made a common cause with this rash and insane adventure. It indicates that the United States and China are seeking the reestablishment of the genocidal regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary in Kampuchea. That is the political objective. [The aim is] to attack Vietnam so that it will cease all cooperation and all solidarity with the revolutionary Government of Kampuchea in order to reestablish the genocidal regime and then encircle Vietnam from two sides again--the south and the north. That is the policy of the United States while it apparently washes its hands of the problem.

What a shameless way this situation has been presented to the world, the way the Chinese have presented the issue. [They say] they were invaded by Vietnam and they have counter-attacked. Well, they are even poor students of Hitler because, let us say, with this [invasion] Deng Xiaoping has become not a Hitler but sort of a Hitler caricature. It is already known from that published internal bulletin at what time they attacked, how they carried out a suprise attack, how they carried out artillery and air preparedness at 3 in the morning, how they initiated the invasion. However, the bulletin does not hide the losses they have had. They cannot hide them. They said two things when the bulletin came out. There were two interesting things: That they had had about 3,000 casualties, and it was the same figure which up to that time the Vietnamese had reported. Of course, they did not say that they had lost scores of tanks. Neither did they say that they had suffered some serious setbacks. They only thing they said in the bulletin was that there had not been good coordination between the various services and between the air force and infantry and, as a consequence, they had had difficulty in advancing.

In other words, on the one hand they said they were attacked and that it was a counter-attack; on the other hand they published a bulletin explaining everything that happened there. What impudence, what cynicism, what an incredible resemblance to the methods employed by Hitler in the abusive and criminal invasion of a small country as much as in the manner in which the problem was presented to the world.

Now then, a very dangerous situation has been created. They have jumped into space. What are their intentions? How far are they capable of going? What will be the result of this crisis? How far will this crisis go? They have undertaken a rash adventure, truly rash and dangerous.

This solidarity with Vietnam and this mobilization of all the revolutionary, progressive and peace-loving people in the world is not in vain. If many times we have participated in activities of solidarity, I am certain that none has [more] world significance and more importance and none is more imperative than this solidarity. [applause]

It is necessary that the progressive forces, that the nations of the world mobilize to halt this adventure, to stop this threat, to stop this insanity because the entire world could be involved in this situation, and the consequences from this type of adventure without exaggeration could be terrible for the world. Vietnam cannot be sacrificed just like that. That is impossible. Therefore, those arrogant and haughty mandarins will have no alternative except to withdraw. They will have no alternative except defeat. But it is necessary that world public opinion rise to influence and bring a halt to an adventure which could lead the world to a catastrophic war.

This is a moment of definition for everyone in the world who calls himself revolutionary, for everyone in the world who calls himself progressive, [applause] for everyone in the world who claims to love peace [applause] because this is not the time for vacillation and ambiguity.

This is not the time for half measures. It is not the time for looking at Vietnam and China on the same level. Throughout this entire world, this is the time for determining who is who, [applause] because no man who loves peace, no progressive man, no revolutionary man who considers himself to be a world revolutionary can neglect to condemn in the most energetic and categorical manner this criminal adventure of the Chinese Government. [applause] Nevertheless, it is necessary to be calm, precisely at a time of grave danger for the world. It is necessary to act with extreme calmness and with extreme self-control. This responsibility belongs to all socialist states and progressive peoples of the world. They must act with maximum calmness and self-control. It is not a time for acting rashly and losing control of oneself, because after certain events take place they could become irreversible.

It is essential to defeat this adventure, defeat this madness, because it must be defeated, it must be defeated. [applause] It must not happen that these neofascist lunatics, that crazy faction, that neofascist faction which is currently governing China have their way of involving the world in a nuclear war. It is necessary to defeat them and avoid them having their way.

We must very carefully observe the development of events. We must be alert to all news and all information received from Vietnam. We are not going to overestimate China's strength. No, we do not have to overestimate it or underestimate Vietnam's. [applause] Technically, from the military viewpoint, with all its madness, cultural revolutions, its purges and more purges, its rehabilitations and more rehabilitations, they have technically fallen behind in arms. A Chinese tank cannot be compared to those Vietnam has. [applause and shouts of no] A Chinese missile, Chinese antiaircraft weapon cannot be compared to Vietnamese antiaircraft arms. [applause] Chinese artillery cannot be compared to Vietnamese artillery. They might boast of hundreds of millions, even billions, but it is not easy to lead a nation to the slaughterhouse. It is not easy.

Besides, the soldiers must be motivated. Doubtlessly, when the Chinese soldier was fighting against reactionary forces, he was an excellent soldier, a courageous soldier. Doubtlessly, when the Chinese soldier was fighting against Yankee troops, he was an excellent soldier, a courageous soldier. He was motivated. He was confronting imperialism and was profoundly motivated by a revolutionary spirit. [applause]

I ask myself: What motivation are these fascists going to offer the Chinese soldier to face death? Can the Chinese soldier be harangued into combat as if he were made of lead, as if he were a lead soldier to kill Vietnamese women and children, to destroy Vietnamese families, to perpetrate acts of genocide? What instructors can drill that army to perpetrate that crime?

I doubt the combat morality of those Chinese soldiers [who] are invading Vietnam, no matter how much they try to mislead them--more so a Vietnam that is not going to remain idle, a Vietnam that has extraordinary combat experience, [applause] a Vietnam which has excellent arms, and a Vietnam which is not alone. [applause]

What a monstrous crime against that nation. How many deeds and how much heroism has been demanded from it during the last decades. First, it was the Japanese invaders. Then came the invaders of the French neocolonialist expeditionary corps. Then came the Yankee invaders, and now, lastly, the Chinese invaders. In those struggles the Vietnamese acquired a lot of experience. There is no other people in the world who can better master military tactics or strategy than the Vietnamese people, [applause] because they had always to confront very powerful enemies.

The Vietnamese know more of tactics and strategy than the Chinese. [applause] A revolutionary war is not the same as a genocidal war. A revolutionary war like the one the Chinese carried out against the Japanese occupation forces and against reactionary forces is not the same as a genocidal and criminal war against a courageous people defending their cause, their homeland, their revolution, their independence, their existence as the Vietnamese are today. [applause] Besides, the Vietnamese are very wise, they know very well what they are doing and how far to let an enemy penetrate and how, when, and in what way to fight. They know what they are doing. I tell you that I have infinite confidence in those qualities of the Vietnamese people. [prolonged applause]

Although this neofascist faction that is ruling China boasts of a 1 billion population, it would not be strange at all for them to suffer a tremendous defeat in Vietnam. [applause] It would not be strange at all. And it is for this reason that I say that these criminals have undertaken a rash adventure. They have turned into a deadend and therein lie the risks in this situation. Actually, it is a dangerous situation, a complicated situation which demands the maximum serenity, maximum coolness, but, at the same time, maximum solidarity, maximum support for Vietnam and maximum determination. [applause]

The Vietnamese defeated the Japanese. The Vietnamese defeated the French. The Vietnamese defeated the Yankees who were much more powerful, incomparably more powerful, than the Chinese fascists. [applause] And when the Yankees surrounded the country with aircraft carriers, thousands of airplanes and strategic bombers, they were defeated. It is our conviction that the Vietnamese will defeat China's fascist war. [prolonged applause] That is our conviction. It does not matter if they penetrated 10, 5, 15 km, a little more or a little less. Many others have penetrated [Vietnam], and you know how they came out.

Our people, I repeat, must closely follow the events and pay close attention to all the news. Our press, our television and our radio must make every effort to give our population the maximum information and let our population be prepared for everything, for everything. [prolonged applause] Crises are not new for us. Some years ago we experienced the October crisis, when many nuclear rockets were aimed at us, and no one here lost any sleep. I know of no one who was kept awake. Moreover, I think that in those days the people slept better than ever. [applause]

The same thing applies now. We must be prepared for everything. We do not know how long this crisis will last, and at this time no one is capable of predicting its result. [We must be] prepared for everything and ready for everything. [prolonged applause] And let us increase our solidarity and intensify our knowledge and awareness without losing peace of mind and without losing any sleep.

Let us say more firmly and with more determination than ever: Long live proletarian internationalism. [shouts of "viva" and applause] Long live the thousand-times heroic people of Vietnam. [shouts of "viva" and applause] Fatherland or death, we will win. [applause]

SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM GROUP ISSUES STATEMENT

FL201826 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Feb 79 FL

[Text] The Cuban Committee in Solidarity with Vietnam has issued a communique in which it states: A few days ago our solidarity committee said that Vietnam is seriously threatened. Today we denounce the consummated fact of the cowardly and cunning attack by the Chinese troops along the length of the Chinese-Vietnamese border. The seriousness of the deed confirms the Chinese leadership's disdain for the principles of sovereignty, national integrity and safeguards to world peace. Such a miserable betrayal has once again taken suffering and pain to the Vietnamese family.

And the communique continues: The energetic intervention by all men who love peace and mass rallies supporting the Vietnamese people's just cause will cutoff the Peking clique's hands which once again bloody Ho Chi Minh's long-suffering land. In the face of the Peking mandarins' aggressions today, just as in the face of Yankee aggression yesterday, we reaffirm the Cuban people's determination--we are willing to give even our own blood to Vietnam. Vietnam is not alone. Vietnam will win.

FIDEL CASTRO SENDS MESSAGES TO KHOMEYNI, BARZAGAN

FL201301 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Feb 79 FL

[Text] A few days ago, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Government of the Republic of Cuba, sent the following messages, which appeared on the front page of the paper GRANMA, to the Ayatollah Khomeyni to congratulate him for the Iranian people's historic victory, and to Mehdi Barzagan to offer the Cuban people's and government's congratulations for being named prime minister.

Ayatollah Khomeyni, in the name of the Cuban people and their government, we congratulate you for your historic victory. The heroic and persistent struggle by the Iranian people to achieve their basic freedoms and to reaffirm their independence are an encouragement for all peoples of the world, especially for the developing nations and their nonalined countries movement. We very sincerely wish you success, liberty and progress, which an extraordinarily brave and heroic people, that is so honorably and wisely led by you, deserves.

Mehdi Barzagan, prime minister of Iran, in the name of the Cuban people and their government, we congratulate you for being named prime minister of Iran. Our people and government are profoundly happy for the welldeserved and extraordinary victory of the Iranian people. We express our firmest support and wishes for success in the patriotic and important mission that those heroic people have placed in their own hands.

Signed, Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Government of the Republic of Cuba.

GUZMAN REJECTS NATIONALIZATION OF FOREIGN ENTERPRISES

PA132326 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2051 GMT 13 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 13 Feb (EFE)--President Antonio Guzman said today that his government is not interested in nationalizing any foreign enterprise because this would discourage investors.

The president made the statement on announcing to the country a new agreement with the U.S.-Canadian-owned Rosario Mining Company, which exploits the country's gold mines.

Guzman admitted that the bill being debated in Congress to set new tax rates in accordance with the price of gold could bring greater benefits to the state than the agreement that was reached. However, he noted that the bill implies the nationalization of part of the profits of the enterprise, "and neither the government nor the country is interested in nationalizing any foreign enterprise because this would discourage investors.

Guzman added that foreign investments "are so coveted by all countries that at this time the Soviet Union and Communist China are desperately opening their doors to all foreign investors." "We who are a poor and underdeveloped country need to attract foreign investment and not discourage it," the president added.

PRD SUPPORTS GOLD, SILVER MINING PACT

FL161405 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Feb 79 FL

[Excerpt] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez has reaffirmed the support of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) for the agreement signed between the government and Rosario Dominicana for the mining of gold and silver at the Pueblo Viejo deposits in Cotui. The maximum PRD leader added that the action taken by the government was the most prudent, since the limitations in which the government finds itself do not allow it to adopt more bold positions.

PRD LEADERS LEAVE FOR U.S., MEXICO, JAPAN

PA161436 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0410 GMT 16 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 15 Feb (EFE)--Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, secretary general of the governing Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) and vice president of the Socialist International for Latin America [Internacional Socialista para Latino America] left this afternoon on a tour that will take him to New York, Washington, Mexico, Portugal and Japan. Pena will be accompanied by PRD President Salvador Jorge Blanco, the party's leader in the Senate.

While in New York the PRD leaders will met with the mayor. They will hold a news conference in Washington, where they will attempt to rebuild relations with U.S. liberal parties and give certificates to U.S. politicians who supported PRD efforts to maintain democracy in the Dominican Republic. Among the persons receiving these certificates will be President Jimmy Carter, Senator Edward Kennedy and Donald Frezer [as received]. While in the U.S. capital they will also visit the most important newspapers and magazines of the United States.

In Japan the two politicians will take part in a program prepared by the Japanese Socialist Party, in Mexico they will participate in a congress of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, and in Portugal Pena Gomez and Jorge Blanco will accept an invitation from former Prime Minister Mario Soares.

BOSCH: CIA BLOCKS POLITICIANS' RETURN

PA151835 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0716 GMT 15 Feb 79 PA

[By Rosendo Sepulveda]

[Text] Santo Domingo, 14 Feb (EFE)--Former President Juan Bosch today accused the Dominican Government of hindering, under instructions from the CIA, the return to the country of several political personalities.

Bosch said in a news conference that the National Investigations Directorate (DNI), which is the institution that determines who should or should not enter the country, is a CIA agency. According to the president of the Dominican Liberation Party (PLD), the DNI director gained military merit by fighting on behalf of the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

He also criticized the government's decision to ban the entrance into the country of several delegates invited by the Dominican Communist Party (PCD) to the commemoration of their second congress by alleging that their presence would detract from the brilliance of the national independence commemoration which, just like the Communist Party event, is to be held on 27 February. According to Bosch, their presence would, on the contrary, provide greater glitter to the national holiday.

Bosch then denied President Antonio Guzman's statement that the election of Dominican Foreign Minister Vice Adm Ramon Emilio Jimenez Reyes as OAS secretary general would be a great honor for the Dominican people. According to Bosch, Guzman forgets that the OAS made it impossible to declare the 1965 U.S. military intervention illegal, and that Guzman himself represented the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) in negotiations conducted with the OAS.

Bosch criticized the reception accorded by the government to the military band of the U.S. Southern Command, stationed in Panama, noting that there was no need to bring this band in to inaugurate the fine arts building in the city of Santiago. "These things happen only here," he indicated, since not even in the United States is a fine arts palace inaugurated by a military band, particularly if it is a foreign one. He also wondered why the band's public relations official appeared on television to send greetings that the people did not need.

Bosch then disclaimed Guzman's statements that his government will not nationalize any foreign companies because that would be equivalent to estranging investors while countries such as Russia and China are attracting foreign capital. The political leader said he does not see any connection between what is happening here and what is happening in Russia or China, since the issues are totally different. Although it is true that both these countries are encouraging foreign investment, after a certain time those investments will become national property.

According to Bosch, the idea is to scare the people with the ghost of nationalization. He added that President Guzman, who held the post of agriculture minister in the 1963 administration, is being poorly advised on economic matters, thus paralyzing the economy. Bosch affirmed that instead of negotiating a less advantageous contract than the one proposed by his party with the Dominican Rosario Mining Company, which exploits [word indistinct], that mining company should have been nationalized.

DETAILS OF CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT WITH USSR

FL161650 Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 10 Feb 79 p 10 FL

[Text] An agreement relating to cultural and scientific co-operation between Guyana and the Soviet Union was yesterday afternoon signed in the boardroom of the Ministry of Economic Development.

The programme of cultural and scientific exchanges between the two countries was initiated during Prime Minister Forbes Burnham's visit to the Soviet Union last year.

The document is a concrete programme of Guyanese-Soviet co-operation for 1979. It provides for exchanges in the fields of culture, art, education, science, cinematography, radio broadcasting, sports and tourism.

It also foresees the exchange of experience and mutual visits of representatives in scientific and scientific-research institutions of both countries as well as the exchange of scientific publications, the sending of Soviet teachers and instructors to Guyana, and the higher learning in the two countries.

Further assistance will also be provided to Guyana through the training of specialists and by the granting of scholarships for Guyanese to study at colleges and universities in the USSR.

Gratitude

The two countries have also agreed to promote by every means the learning of Russian in Guyana and of English in USSR.

Soviet Ambassador to Guyana Cde Vladimir Kotenev, who signed on behalf of his country, expressed gratitude for the co-operation of the Guyanese in working out the agreement. He also expressed the hope that the document would serve to strengthen friendly relations between the two countries.

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Development Cde Hetram Maraj, who signed on behalf of the Guyana Government, gave the assurance that the programme outlined in the agreement would be implemented and the activities undertaken. He also said that copies of the agreement would soon be circulated to all the institutions and agencies which will be involved in the implementation of the programme.

Cde Maraj also took the opportunity to welcome back to Guyana the Soviet ambassador, who had been away from the country for some time. The signing of the agreement was witnessed by Cde G.N. Kouznetsov of the Soviet Embassy and a number of Soviet and Guyanese officials.

Under the agreement, previews of Soviet films will be held in Guyana, while Guyanese films will be shown in the USSR. Radio programmes covering important events in the life of both countries will also be exchanged. In addition, the programme of co-operation outlines exchanges by artistic groups, soloists, delegations of prominent cultural figures, as well as exhibitions.